UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/423
15 April 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 14 APRIL 1999 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have been instructed by my Government to inform you that the air forces of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) bombed today a column of refugees in Kosovo and Metohija as they returned to their homes. The column of a few thousand people, mostly women, children and the elderly, was struck on two occasions on their way home following a call by the Yugoslav Government.

The air raid occurred on the Djakovica-Prizren road near the villages of Madanaj and Meja between 1.00 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. local time. According to the initial information, it has been ascertained that 64 persons were killed and over 20 wounded in the raid. In addition to the refugees, three policemen that escorted them were also killed.

Bearing in mind this criminal act of the NATO air forces against innocent civilians returning to their homes, I request that you convene an emergency meeting of the Security Council to condemn this criminal act.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Charge d'affaires a.i.

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